

Message Text

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12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O R 110836Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 570

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

IAEA VIENNA 73

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4145

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR, TGEN, TECH, KS, MNUC

SUBJECT: APPROACH TO ROKG ON NUCLEAR EXPORTS

REF: A. STATE 133123 B. SEOUL 4086 C. SEOUL 3973

1. ON JUNE 10 DCM DELIVERED AIDE-MEMOIRE CONTAINED REF A. TO ROK ASST MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS KIM CHONG TAE. APPROACH EMPHASIZED URGENCY OF POSITIVE REPLY AND OUR CORRESPONDING DESIRE TO REPRESENT ROK CIVIL NUCLEAR NEEDS IN BEST POSSIBLE LIGHT. TREATIES DIVISION CHIEF YI CHANG-CHUN WAS ALSO PRESENT.

2. KIM PROMISED PROMPT ACTION BUT STATED THAT GIVEN TECHNICAL COMPLEXITIES OF DOCUMENT CONSULTATIONS WITH MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOST) WOULD BE NECESSARY. KIM RAISED NO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RE AIDE-MEMOIRE AND APPEARED ACCEPT RATIONALE OFFERED. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, MOFA MIGHT APPROACH EMBASSY FOR CLARIFICATION ONCE THEY HAD DIGESTED REQUEST.

3. ECON CONS FOLLOWED UP WITH PRESIDENT YUN YONG-KU OF KOREA ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MOST. IN ABSENCE OF MOST MINISTER CHOE, NOTED IN REF B., EMBASSY JUDGES THAT YUN WILL BE KEY WORKING LEVEL
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OFFICIAL TO WHOM FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL TURN FOR EXPLANATION

TION/ACTION RECOMMENDATION ON AIDE-MEMOIRE. YUN STATED HE FULLY UNDERSTANDS WAHINGTON'S DESIRE TO CLEAR UP ABIGUITY ADDRESSED BY AIDE-MEMOIRE AND WILL EXPEDITE ROKG CONCURRENCE FROM HIS END. ECON COUNSELOR, ENCOURAGED BY YUN TO DO SO, PLANS CONTACT VICE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND DIRECTOR OF ROK ATOMIC ENERGY BUREAU (MOST) FOR UNOFFICIAL EXPLANATION OF AIDE-MEMOIRE TO ASSURE THAT ALL LEVLES OF ROKG BUREAUCRACY CONCERNED UNDERSTAND THRUST OF PROPOSAL AND URGENCY OF POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY.

4. EMBASSY NOTED WITH INTEREST REF A. PARA 3 COMMENT WHICH IMPLIES ROKG AWARE OF NRC CANCELLATION OF KORI FIRST CHARGE FUEL EXPORT LICENSE. TO EMBASSY KNOWLEDGE ROKG NOT YET AWARE THAT PROBLEM EXISTS IN AREA OF LICENSING PROCEDURE. PER REF C., WESTINGHOUSE REP IN LATE MAY NOTIFIED EMBASSY THAT HE WAS AWARE THAT LICENSE HAD BEEN LOST BUT THAT HE HAD NOT NOTIFIED AND DID NOT INTEND TO NOTIFY FUEL CONTRACTUAL PARTNER KOREA ELECTRIC CO.
SNEIDER

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